

**Deep South  
Lightning Regatta  
Savannah Yacht Club  
March 19-21, 2026**

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

**1. RULES**

1.1 The regatta will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the ILCA constitution, By-Laws, Lightning Specifications and the Document Governing All Sanctioned Lightning Class Championships (hereafter referred to as the Documents Governing).

1.2 The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the SIs means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1.3 Appendix V, Alternative Penalties, will apply.

1.4 Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: (2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or

1.5 Please see NOR for rule changes and other information that apply.

**2. ENTRIES**

2.1 Eligible boats may enter this event by completing the online entry form at Regatta Network: <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/30644>

2.2 Deadline for registration and paying entry fee is by 2300 EDT on March 19, 2026.

**3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

3.1 Notices to competitors will be displayed on the official notice board which will be located on the Dock House porch.

3.2 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the notice board by 0830 on the day it takes effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be displayed on the prior day by the protest time limit or 1800 hours, whichever is earlier.

3.3 Oral changes to the Sailing Instructions may be given on the water by hail from the Signal Boat under code flag "L" in accordance with RRS 90.2. Oral Changes communicated on the water shall be made before the warning signal.

**4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the SYC mast on the bluff of the Wilmington River.

4.2 When postponement is signaled ashore, the warning signal will be made not less than 30 minutes after AP is lowered.

**5. SCHEDULE**

5.1 Friday, March 20th  
1000 Skipper's Meeting - Outside Dock House  
1200 First Warning Sound

Saturday, March 21st  
1000 First Warning Sound

1400 No Warning Sound will be made after this time

5.2 Subsequent races each day will be held as soon as practicable after the end of the previous race.

5.3 Race Committee will display flag A while boats are finishing to signal that there will be no more races that day.

## **6. CLASS FLAG**

The class flag will be the International Lightning Class insignia on a white field.

## **7. RACING AREA**

The racing area will be on the Wilmington and Skidaway Rivers shown on Illustration A, attached.

## **8. COURSES**

8.1 The courses will be windward/leeward and/or triangle or combinations of each.

8.2 The Course Board on the Signal Boat will display the course by mark numbers. Illustration A shows the approximate location of each mark. Marks will be rounded to Port or Starboard as indicated by a "P" or "S" on the course board. Marks shall be rounded in the displayed order.

8.3 ICW Marker #40 is identified as an obstruction. Due to shallow water, Boats shall pass on the channel side of this marker. As an aid to help Boats keep away from this obstruction, a orange ball will be placed near the obstruction and Boats shall sail only on the channel side. See Illustration A. [DP]

## **9. MARKS**

9.1 Marks 1, 2, 3, and 4 will be large green inflatables. New marks, as provided in Sailing Instruction 13, (Changing the Next Leg of The Course), will be large yellow marks.

9.2 When an offset mark is used, designated by the lower-case letter "o", it will be a white ball.

9.3 The start mark will be a race committee pin boat displaying an orange flag on a staff.

## **10. CHECKING IN**

10.1 Before the first race of the day, the race committee signal boat will display flag L while anchored prior to the warning signal. Each competitor shall come within hail and check in by hailing their sail numbers until acknowledged by the race committee. [DP]

## **11. STARTING AND FINISHING**

11.1 The starting line will be between the staffs from which orange flags are displayed on the race committee boats at the ends of the starting line.

11.2 At least five minutes prior to the warning sound of a race, the RC will hoist its orange starting line flags with a sound signal.

11.3 If the finishing line is at a mark of the course, the finishing line will be between the staff from which a blue flag is displayed on a race committee boat and the nearby finishing mark.

11.4 If the finishing line is between the signal boat and the pin boat, the finishing line will be between staffs from which blue flags are displayed on both boats and the letter "F" will be displayed last on the course board.

## **12. RECALLS**

12.1 After the starting signal, the race committee will attempt to hail on VHF channel 69 the bow or sail numbers of OCS boats. The delay of such a hail, the order of hailing or the failure of a competitor to hear such a hail shall not be grounds for granting redress. This change is added to RRS 62.1(a).

## **13. CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

13.1 To change the next leg of the course (RRS 33), the race committee will lay a new mark and remove the original mark as soon as practicable.

13.2 When, in a subsequent change, a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

## **14. TIME LIMITS**

14.1 A boat that has not met the definition of start within five minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS by the Race Committee.

14.2 The time limit for the first boat to *sail the course* as required by RRS 28.1 is 2 hours.

14.3 After the first boat to finish sailing the course as required by RRS 28.1, boats not finishing within 15 minutes will be scored TLE. This change is added to rules 35 and A5.

## **15. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

15.1 Protests shall be written on forms available at the Club office and delivered there within the one-half hour Protest Time which starts when the Signal Boat docks. Docking and protest time limit will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

15.2 Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt as soon as possible.

15.3 Protest notices will be posted as received to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a hearing or named as a witness.

15.4 Protests against a boat by the Race Committee or Protest Committee will be posted on the official notice board to meet requirements of RRS 61.3.

## **16. SCORING**

16.1 When five (5) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of all her race scores excluding her worst race.

16.2 Boats scored TLE will receive 2 points more than the number of Boats who finish that race but not more than DNF.

16.3 The maximum number of races scheduled is (6) races.

## **17. PRIZES**

17.1 Prizes will be awarded to the skippers and crew of the first three (3) boats in the Regatta and the skipper and crew of the mid fleet boat.

## **18. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS**

18.1 The use of hand-held VHF radios while racing is permitted, but only for receiving communications from the race committee on channel 69, and in emergencies. The failure to receive such communications shall not be grounds for granting redress.

18.2 Other use of any electronic communication device, including cellular telephones, while racing is prohibited. [DP]

## **19. COACHING AND OFFICIAL BOATS**

19.1 No boat breaks RRS 41 by receiving unsolicited help from the ILCA approved coach while racing. Individual team coaches are not authorized by this rule.

# Illustration A

## Race Area

